

Appln No. 10/773184
Amdt. Dated: October 12, 2006
Response to Office Action of July 18, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's further Office Action of July 18, 2006 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

It is noted that the Examiner states that claims 1-54 are pending in the present application in the Office Action Summary. However, in Applicant's Reply of 7 May 2006 was accompanied by an Amendment in which claim 23 was cancelled. Thus, claims 1-22 and 24-54 are pending in the present application.

In the Amendment:

independent claims 1, 19 and 38 are amended to recite that the heater element is in the form of a cantilever beam having a supported end and a free end and that the mass of solid material is incorporated in the free end. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, at page 12, line 9-page 13, line 15, page 20, lines 9-12 and page 36, lines 10-15 of the present specification;

dependent claims 9 and 28 are cancelled; and

dependent claims 2-8, 10-18, 20, 22, 24-27, 29-37 and 39-54 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application.

Regarding Specification Objection

It is respectfully submitted that the above-discussed amendment cancelling claims 9 and 28 which recite the subject matter cited by the Examiner as not finding antecedent basis in the specification, provides the correction required by the Examiner.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of above-discussed amended independent claims 1, 19 and 38, and claims 2-8, 10-18, 20, 22, 24-27, 29-37 and 39-54 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by any one or more of previously cited Silverbrook, Moon, Anagnostopoulos, Otsuka and Campbell in view of newly cited De Moor et al., for at least the following reasons.

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In the present invention, as recited in amended independent claims 1, 19 and 38, forming the heater element 10 as a cantilever beam having a supported end and a free end minimizes the amount of direct contact between the heater element and the nozzle, which, coupled with the low heater mass of the heater elements, provides a very efficient printhead (see page 12, line 9-page 13, line 15, page 20, lines 9-12 and page 36, lines 10-15 of the present specification).

On the other hand, none of Silverbrook, Moon, Anagnostopoulos, Otsuka and Campbell and De Moor teach or suggest such an arrangement. In particular, with respect to Anagnostopoulos, it is clear that the view of the TiN heater illustrated in Figure 5 (as well as the other similar figures) is merely a cross-sectional view of the looped TiN heater which are illustrated in plan view in Figs. 1A-1F (see col. 5, line 41-col. 6, line 9 of Anagnostopoulos).

Thus, the subject matter of amended independent claims 1, 19 and 38, and claims 2-8, 10-18, 20, 22, 24-27, 29-37 and 39-54 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by any one or more of Silverbrook, Moon, Anagnostopoulos, Otsuka and Campbell and De Moor.

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It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections and rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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